UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

Official Records

SECOND COMMITTEE
48th meeting
held on
Monday, 13 December 1993
at 3.30 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 48th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MONGBE (Benin)

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 41: EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 91: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued)

(a) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

(g) HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (continued)

(i) ENTREPRENEURSHIP (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 92: EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 93: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 94: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 154: UNITED NATIONS INTERIM OFFICES

AGENDA ITEM 106: TRAINING AND RESEARCH: UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH

OTHER MATTERS

DRAFT BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SECOND COMMITTEE FOR 1994-1995

CONCLUSION OF THE WORK OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned *within one week of the date of the publication* to the Chief of the Official Records Editing Section, room DC2-794, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

Distr. GENERAL
A/C.2/48/SR.48
23 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

93-82990 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 3.55 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)
(A/C.2/48/L.18, L.50/Rev.1, L.51/Rev.1, L.52/Rev.1, L.53/Rev.1, L.82 and L.90)

Draft resolutions on assistance to the Palestinian people (A/C.2/48/L.18 and L.90)

1. Mr. RYSINSKI (Poland) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.90, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.18, and orally corrected the text.

2. Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria) drew attention to a typographical error in the third and fourth preambular paragraphs of the Arabic text.

3. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.90 was adopted.

4. Mr. AL-HABIB (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that his delegation had joined in the consensus even though it had reservations about parts of the draft resolution that might be construed as giving any kind of recognition to Israel.

5. Mr. KHANI (Syrian Arab Republic) said that his delegation had reservations about the second preambular paragraph of the draft resolution because it was not in consonance with the Arab position regarding the Palestinian/Israeli agreement and developments in the peace process.

6. Mr. ELBATEL (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that although his delegation had joined in the consensus on the draft resolution that did not mean that it recognized Israel or accepted certain phrases in the draft resolution.

7. Mr. KUDRIAVTSEV (Russian Federation) said that as the representative of a State that was co-sponsoring the Middle East negotiating process, he noted with deep satisfaction that for the first time consensus had been achieved in the Committee on the draft resolution on assistance to the Palestinian people. That reflected the positive changes in the negotiating process on a Middle East settlement and also the serious concern of the international community about the economic and social situation of the Palestinian people and the need to take adequate measures to provide economic, financial and technical assistance to that people.

8. Ms. JACOBSEN (Norway) said that Norway had joined in the consensus with the understanding, in connection with operative paragraph 5, that Norway would continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people through various channels. Norway attached great importance to following up on positive developments in the Middle East by providing substantial assistance to the Palestinian people.

9. Mr. SHREIM (Observer for Palestine) expressed appreciation to all those delegations that had sponsored draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.18 and to those that had helped reach agreement on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.90. Its adoption by

(Mr. Shreim, Observer, Palestine)

consensus came at a decisive stage in the life of the Palestinian people who were facing great challenges in completely rebuilding their society. He expressed appreciation to all States and parties that had made a commitment to provide assistance to the Palestinian people.

10. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.18 was withdrawn.

Draft decision on strengthening development information systems for regional cooperation and integration in Africa (A/C.2/48/L.50/Rev.1 and L.82)

11. Mr. ARELLANO (Mexico), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft decision A/C.2/48/L.50/Rev.1, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations, and recommended it for adoption without a vote. He also drew attention to document A/C.5/48/L.82, which contained the programme budget implications of draft decisions A/C.2/48/L.50/Rev.1, L.51/Rev.1, L.52/Rev.1 and L.53/Rev.1.

12. Mr. AHMIA (Algeria) said that the sponsors of the draft decision had discussed its programme budget implications during informal consultations. The proposed allocation of resources was inadequate to carry out the activities envisaged under the draft decision. He recalled that, at its previous session at Geneva, the Economic and Social Council had approved additional resources for the various bodies of the United Nations system involved in programme implementation for the Second Industrial Development decade for Africa, the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, and the strengthening of development information systems for regional cooperation and integration in Africa. The Council had also adopted resolutions in which it requested the General Assembly to pay particular attention to those issues at its forty-eighth session. The sponsors therefore reserved the right to raise the question of adequate resources in the Fifth Committee.

13. Draft decision A/C.2/48/L.50/Rev.1 was adopted.

Draft decision on the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (A/C.2/48/L.51/Rev.1 and L.82)

14. Mr. ARELLANO (Mexico), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft decision A/C.2/48/L.51/Rev.1, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations, and recommended it for adoption without a vote.

15. Draft decision A/C.2/48/L.51/Rev.1 was adopted.

Draft decision on the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (A/C.2/48/L.52/Rev.1 and L.82)

16. Mr. ARELLANO (Mexico), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft decision A/C.2/48/L.52/Rev.1, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations, and recommended it for adoption without a vote.

17. Draft decision A/C.2/L.52/Rev.1 was adopted.

Draft decision on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (A/C.2/48/L.53/Rev.1 and L.82)

18. Mr. ARELLANO (Mexico), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft decision A/C.2/48/L.53/Rev.1, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations, and recommended it for adoption without a vote.

19. Draft decision A/C.2/48/L.53/Rev.1 was adopted.

20. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee take note of the relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/48/3), the note by the Secretary-General on the prevention and control of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) (A/48/159-E/1993/59), the note by the Secretary-General on the United Nations Population Award (A/48/276) and the report of the Secretary-General on special assistance to Namibia (A/48/498).

21. It was so decided.

Draft resolution concerning economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people (A/C.2/48/L.17)

22. Mr. OULD CHEIKH EL GHAOUTHE (Mauritania) said that had his delegation been present during the voting on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.17, it would have voted in favour of the text.

AGENDA ITEM 41: EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN (continued) (A/C.2/48/L.48)

Draft resolution on emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan (A/C.2/48/L.48)

23. Mr. RYSINSKI (Poland), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the results of informal consultations on the draft resolution, recommended it for adoption without a vote.

24. Mr. GHAFOORZAI (Afghanistan) announced that Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Guatemala, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Malaysia, Nepal and Thailand had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution, and pointed out that in paragraph 4 (a), the word "facilitate" should be replaced by the words "assist Afghanistan in facilitating", and that in paragraph 4 (c), the words "possibility of" should be inserted after the words "including the".

25. Ms. KELLEY (Secretary of the Committee), reporting on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.48, said that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would dispatch a small team headed by a senior official on a mission of approximately one month to canvass the views of Afghan leaders on how best the United Nations could facilitate national rapprochement and reconstruction in Afghanistan. The estimated cost of the mission, assuming that it would comprise Secretariat staff and that it would avail itself of United Nations facilities currently in place in Afghanistan, would be US$ 70,000. The Secretary-General would endeavour to

(Ms. Kelley)

absorb the cost of the mission within the resources to be approved for the Department of Political Affairs for the biennium 1994-1995. If that proved impossible the cost would be reported in the context of the performance report.

26. In his report on the Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan and Pakistan (A/C.5/48/41), the Secretary-General said that he would continue to monitor the overall situation in Afghanistan and to make available his good offices where required. That document also contained the relevant cost estimates under Section 4 of the proposed programme budget.

27. Mr. GHAFOORZAI (Afghanistan) said that the sponsors believed that the dispatch of a high-level mission to Afghanistan would provide added impetus to national rapprochement and reconstruction in that country. The proposed mission must not be construed as a lack of appreciation for the current efforts of the United Nations in Afghanistan, and more particularly the services of the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General. The resources currently in place, however, were inadequate to effectively promote the process of national rapprochement.

28. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.48 was adopted.

29. Mr. AL-RACHACH (Saudi Arabia) said that Saudi Arabia had joined in the consensus because it believed that the current arrangements in place in Afghanistan were insufficient to bring about national rapprochement in that country. A special mission, headed by a senior official from Headquarters, was therefore required.

30. Mr. BLANEY (United States of America) said that his delegation had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution in calling for the Secretary-General to dispatch a special mission to see what role, if any, the United Nations could play in facilitating national rapprochement in Afghanistan. His Government believed that the international community could help speed up the process of national rapprochement and the dispatch of a high-level mission would be a useful step in that direction. The aim of the mission would be to canvass a broad range of Afghan opinion on how best to establish a process aimed at forming a broad-based and representative Government, and how the United Nations could assist in that process. The mission should canvass the views of local, traditional, religious and political leaders both in and out of Afghanistan and one of its objectives should be to focus on the reconstruction of that country. The mission would be a strictly exploratory one and would not require any additional resources from the Organization. It should comprise senior and experienced officials. He hoped, finally, that the Secretary-General would dispatch the mission in question as early as possible after the adoption of the draft resolution.

AGENDA ITEM 91: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued) (A/C.2/48/L.74 and L.87)

Draft resolution on an agenda for development

31. Mr. ARELLANO (Mexico), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.87, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.74, and announced that Australia, Canada, Portugal and Spain had joined the sponsors. He read out the text of a new paragraph, paragraph 6 which would read as follows: "Recommends that the organizational session of the Economic and Social Council should consider an agenda for development as a possible topic for the Economic and Social Council's high-level segment in 1994".

32. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.87, as orally amended, was adopted.

33. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.74 was withdrawn.

(a) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution on economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries (A/C.2/48/L.21)

34. Mr. OULD CHEIKH EL GHAOUTHE (Mauritania) said that had his delegation been present during the voting on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.21, it would have voted in favour.

(g) HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (continued)

Draft resolution on human settlements (A/C.2/48/L.37)

35. Mr. ARELLANO (Mexico), Vice-Chairman, said that the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.37 wished to propose a number of changes. In the fourth preambular paragraph, the words "human settlement aspects" should be inserted after the words "the Strategy and". In paragraph 2, the word "Concurs" should be replaced by the words "Also endorses" and the words "and 14/20 on the preparations for the Habitat II Conference" should be inserted after the words "United Nations system". In paragraph 3 the words "and direction" should be inserted after the words "separate management". Paragraph 4 should be deleted and replaced by the following: "Requests the Secretary-General, in the context of ensuring high-level leadership to UNCHS (Habitat) through distinct and separate management and direction as contemplated in General Assembly resolution 32/162, taking into account the relevant recommendations on the ongoing restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system as it prepares for the challenges of human settlement, development and its management in the twenty-first century, as well as preparations for Habitat II,

(Mr. Arellano, Mexico)

to give full consideration to the views expressed by member States regarding the leadership of UNCHS (Habitat)". In paragraph 5 after the word "strengthened", the last two lines should be deleted and replaced by the following: "at its headquarters, maximizing the effectiveness of national and regional operations;". Finally, in paragraph 6, the word "Requests" should be replaced by "Urges", and the words "the preparations" in the penultimate line should be replaced by "adequate preparations". He wished to recommend the draft resolution, as revised, for adoption without a vote.

36. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.37, as orally revised, was adopted.

Draft resolution contained in Commission on Human Settlements resolution 14/1 (A/48/8)

37. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the draft resolution contained in Commission on Human Settlements resolution 14/1, saying he took it that the Committee wished to adopt it.

38. The draft resolution was adopted.

Draft resolution contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/63 (E/1993/INF/6)

39. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the draft resolution contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/63, saying he took it that the Committee wished to adopt it.

40. The draft resolution was adopted.

(i) ENTREPRENEURSHIP (continued)

Draft resolution on Entrepreneurship and privatization for economic growth and sustainable development (A/C.2/48/L.34/Rev.1)

41. Mr. ARELLANO (Mexico), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on the revised text of the draft resolution said that agreement had been reached and recommended the draft resolution for adoption. without a vote.

42. Mr. FERNANDEZ DE COSSIO (Cuba) pointed out that it had been agreed that a reference to General Assembly resolution 47/199 should be included in the first preambular paragraph.

43. The revised draft resolution, as orally amended, was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 92: EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)
(A/C.2/48/L.5/Rev.1)

Draft resolution on enhanced international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of all developing countries
(A/C.2/48/L.5/Rev.1)

44. Mr. ARELLANO (Mexico), Vice-Chairman, reporting on the informal consultations held on the revised draft resolution, said that it had not been possible to reach consensus.

45. Mr. ALIOU (Cameroon) drew attention to the following amendments to the revised draft resolution before the Committee: the word "all" in the title, sixth preambular paragraph and paragraph 5 had been deleted; the word "problem" in the third line of the second preambular paragraph should be in the plural; the word "take" in the third line of paragraph 5, had been replaced by the words "consider taking" and the words "debt cancellation" at the end of paragraph 13 had been replaced by the words "debt reduction or cancellation".

46. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United States of America.

Abstaining: None.

47. The revised draft resolution, as orally amended, was adopted by 152 votes to 1.

48. Mr. JARAMILLO (Colombia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, welcomed the adoption of the revised draft resolution. Although there had been an easing of the debt situation of the developing countries over the past decade, the high social and political cost incurred in achieving that improvement should not be forgotten. The Group of 77 wished to emphasize how important it was for the United Nations system to continue monitoring the extent of the debt of developing countries and contributing further proposals on the problem.

AGENDA ITEM 93: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (continued)

Draft resolutions on the international year for the eradication of poverty (A/C.2/48/L.60 and A/C.2/48/L.86)

49. Mr. ARELLANO (Mexico), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.86, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.60 and recommended it for adoption.

50. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.86 was adopted.

51. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.60 was withdrawn.

Draft resolutions on international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries (A/C.2/48/L.61 and L.89)

52. Mr. ARELLANO (Mexico), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.89, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.61, and recommended it for adoption.

53. Mr. PORTOCARERO (Belgium) supported by Mr. JOMAA (Tunisia) and Mr. BELHINEUR (Algeria), said that in the seventh preambular paragraph, the words "the countries" should be inserted before "in Sub-Saharan Africa", and the French text of that paragraph and of paragraphs 7 and 8 needed to be brought in line with the English text.

54. Mr. FERNANDEZ-PITA (Spain) said that the Spanish text, too should brought in line with the English text.

55. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.89, as amended, was adopted.

56. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.61 was withdrawn.

AGENDA ITEM 94: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 154: UNITED NATIONS INTERIM OFFICES (continued)

Draft resolution on operational activities for development: Field offices of the United Nations development system (A/C.2/48/L.70 and L.85)

57. Mr. RYSINSKI (Poland), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.70, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations, noting that the programme budget implications were contained in document A/C.2/48/L.85. It had been agreed that, in paragraph 3, the phrase "in particular, those in Assembly resolutions 34/213, 47/182 and 47/199" should be moved to the end of the paragraph.

58. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.70, as orally amended, was adopted.

59. Mr. ABEKIAN (Armenia) welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution and expressed the hope that the General Assembly would be able to allocate the resources needed to implement it.

60. Mr. KUDRIAVTSEV (Russian Federation) said that the draft resolution confirmed the establishment of a United Nations field office in Moscow. His delegation had supported the draft resolution on the understanding that the activities mandated would be fully covered under section 94 of the programme budget.

61. Ms. LIEDES (Finland) said that her delegation had been reluctant to join in the consensus on the draft resolution, but had done so in a spirit of cooperation. It would have been prepared to support the Secretary-General's proposal regarding the integrated offices, which acknowledged the different role played by the United Nations in the countries in transition. The main role of the United Nations in the developing countries was to promote development, as had been clearly stated in General Assembly resolution 47/199. The draft resolution just approved should not be taken as a signal to the agencies concerned that General Assembly resolution 47/199 had been weakened; on the contrary, the strengthening of field coordination under that resolution should be fully and speedily carried out. It was regrettable that the special situation of the economies in transition was not acknowledged in the draft resolution, but had instead now been equated with that of the developing countries. That raised the question of what the consequences would be with regard to financial allocations. Her delegation considered it essential that a clear and fair division of labour be established between the United Nations regular budget and the budgets of the United Nations operational organizations, including the specialized agencies, in order to ensure that the offices were placed on a sound financial basis, and attached great importance to ensuring the funding for the newly established offices.

62. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should take note of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (E/1993/35) and the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations interim offices (A/48/146/Add.1).

63. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 106: TRAINING AND RESEARCH: UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH (continued)

Draft resolutions on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (A/C.2/48/L.71, L.84 and L.88)

64. Mr. ARELLANO (Mexico), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.88, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.71, and recommended it for adoption.

65. Ms. MILLS (Deputy Controller) drew attention to the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.2/48/L.84) and pointed out that paragraph 3 cited extracts from an earlier text of article VI of the Statute of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). She read out the amended text, which had been approved by the General Assembly in resolution 44/175.

66. Miss JANJUA (Pakistan) said that her understanding was that responsibility for the appointment of full-time Senior Fellows rested with the Secretary-General, but that paragraph 3 of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.88 was not affected.

67. Ms. MILLS (Deputy Controller) said that that understanding was correct, but that paragraph 3 did have financial implications; they were outlined in document A/C.2/48/L.84.

68. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.88, as amended, was adopted.

69. Draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.71 was withdrawn.

70. Ms. ENKHTSETEG (Mongolia) said that Mongolia had supported draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.88 because the Mongolian Government attached great importance to UNITAR, which over the years had organized programmes to help the developing countries with many developmental and other problems. Mongolia had drawn much benefit from its cooperation with UNITAR, the latest example of which was the training programme on international sources of finance for economic and social development currently being conducted in Mongolia. The Mongolian Government was also grateful to the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau, which had made the programme possible.

OTHER MATTERS

71. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to two letters (A/C.5/48/51 and A/C.5/48/60) which, at the request of several delegations, he proposed to send to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee.

72. After a discussion in which Mr. FERNANDEZ DE COSSIO (Cuba), Ms. YANG Yanyi (China), Mr. JARAMILLO (Colombia), Mr. PORTOCARERO (Belgium), Mr. AMAZIANE (Morocco), Mr. OULD CHEIKH EL GHAOUTHE (Mauritania), Ms. IRISH (Canada), Mr. HORIGUCHI (Japan), Mr. KING (Trinidad and Tobago), Mr. JOMAA (Tunisia), Miss DIOP (Senegal) and Ms. TOMKINSON (Australia) took part, Mr. BABA (Uganda), suggested that the meeting should be suspended to allow for informal consultations on the issue.

The meeting was suspended at 5.50 p.m. and resumed at 6.20 p.m.

73. The CHAIRMAN said that he took it that the Committee wished him to send the letters.

74. It was so decided.

DRAFT BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SECOND COMMITTEE FOR 1994-1995 (A/C.2/48/L.72)

75. Mr. BUNCH (Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development), introducing the draft biennial programme of work as contained in the annex to document A/C.2/48/L.72, said that the General Assembly resolution referred to under item 2 (c) of the draft programme for 1994 should be A/C.2/48/L.5/Rev.1, the second resolution referred to under item 3 should be A/C.2/48/L.28/Rev.1 and the title of the report should be amended accordingly. In item 3 (a), the words "including recommendations on the mid-term global review of the programme of action for the least developed countries for the 1990s (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/48/L.76)" should be added after "Report of the Trade and Development Board", the reference to General Assembly resolution A/C.2/48/L.23 should be changed to A/C.2/48/L.79 and the title should be changed accordingly. Under items 3 (i) and (j), the references to General Assembly resolutions A/C.2/48/L.61 and A/C.2/48/L.60 should be changed to L.89 and L.86 respectively. Under item 4, General Assembly resolution A/C.2/48/L.58 should be changed to L.83 and under item 4 (e), General Assembly resolution A/C.2/48/L.12 should read L.78. Under item 6, General Assembly resolution A/C.2/48/L.71 should read L.88. An item 7 should be added entitled "Agenda for Development" with the documentation "Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution A/C.2/48/L.87)".

76. In the draft programme for 1995, under item 3, General Assembly resolutions A/C.2/48/L.14 and L.22 should be L.14/Rev.1 and L.81. Under sub-items (c) and (d), General Assembly resolutions A/C.2/48/L.16 and L.8 should be L.77 and L.76. Under sub-item (g), the General Assembly resolution should be A/C.2/48/L.34/Rev.1 and the title should be amended accordingly. Under item 4, draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.47 should be L.80 and the third document listed should be "Report of the Secretary-General updating the developments relevant to

the implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/215". Under item 5 (b), the third item of documentation should be "Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/C.2/48/L.73 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community.

77. Mr. VAN DE CRAEN (Belgium) asked for confirmation that nothing in the draft programme of work would detract from the agenda to be adopted by the plenary.

78. Mr. RAMADAN (Egypt) queried the need to have two separate items referring to sustainable development (Draft programme for 1995, items 3 and 4), and suggested that they might be combined. Referring to the draft programme for 1994, item 3 (c), he said that General Assembly resolution 47/176 which called on the Secretary-General to report on the preparatory work for the International Conference on Population and Development, should have been included in the documentation, adding that the topic should also appear in the 1995 programme. He noted that the draft programme for 1995 made no mention of any follow-up to the Conference. Lastly, he asked whether, given that the programme was contingent on the adoption of A/48/L.33, the Committee's agenda would be open to any changes.

79. Mr. ABELIAN (Armenia) said that, according to his understanding, with the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/48/L.70, there were no longer any "interim offices". He wondered why they were referred to under item 5 (a) of the draft programme for 1995.

80. Mr. JOMAA (Tunisia) expressed concern at the absence of any mention of debt in the draft programme for 1995, even though that issue was discussed annually in the General Assembly. It might give the misleading impression that the Committee no longer wished to discuss that issue. He also considered that more topics could be added under item 4.

81. Miss JANJUA (Pakistan) pointed out that it would have been more logical to put trade and development under item 2 rather than under item 3.

82. Mr. BUNCH (Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development) said that the draft programme of work had been drawn up on the basis of draft resolution A/48/L.33 specifically section E of annex II. The existing agenda of the Second Committee had been followed and an attempt had been made to be consistent in retaining the names of items and sub-items. Turning to the question of why not all biennial and annual topics were listed in the 1995 programme, he said that the list included only topics that were mandated. Since the International Conference on Population and Development had not yet received a mandate, there was no sub-item for a follow-up to the Conference. The same applied to debt. In other words, the 1995 list was not exhaustive. He added that only item 1 of the draft programme contained "indicative topics"; in all other cases the items were followed by sub-items.

83. Finally, as the representative of Armenia had noticed, the reference to United Nations field offices in the draft programme for 1995 was incorrect. The reference under item 5 (a) should read "United Nations field offices".

84. Ms. TOMKINSON (Australia) said that the topics listed under item 1 should be deleted since they were not in fact sub-items. She pointed out that the draft programme for 1994 contained two sub-items on poverty under item 3, and suggested that they might be combined.

85. Mr. AMAZIANE (Morocco) asked where the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, which was proclaimed in General Assembly resolution 44/236, featured in the draft agenda.

86. Mr. BUNCH (Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development) replied that the International Decade was proposed for discussion in plenary. As for the point raised by the representative of Australia, regarding two sub-items on poverty, he said that the problem had arisen because each of the sub-items in question came from different documents; unless the Committee decided that item 3 (j) (International Year for the Eradication of Poverty) should be deleted both would have to stand, for it was impossible to have a sub-item to a sub-item.

87. Mr. BELHIMEUR (Algeria) said he had no objection to adopting the draft biennial programme of work for 1994-1995. However, he would like the Committee to adhere to the decisions it had taken concerning restructuring and revitalization and to the requests contained in the various General Assembly resolutions relating to the work of the Second Committee. Furthermore he reserved the right of his delegation to make adjustments to the programme at the forty-ninth session.

88. The CHAIRMAN said that he took it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft biennial programme of work for 1994-1995 contained in document A/C.2/48/L.72, as orally amended.

89. It was so decided.

90. Mr. JOMAA (Tunisia) said that his understanding was that the words "as orally amended" referred to amendments suggested by the representative of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development and by those delegations which had taken the floor; he asked the Secretariat to make available the amended text of the draft programme of work before it was considered in a plenary meeting of the General Assembly.

91. Mr. DUGAN (United States of America) said that his understanding had been that the question of debt would not be included in the draft programme of work because there was no mandate to do so. The Second Committee should decide during the forty-ninth session whether to take up the question of debt in 1995, just as it would decide to take up other items.

92. Mr. JOMAA (Tunisia) said he understood the statement made by the United States to be a reservation and not an amendment to the draft programme, since that document had already been adopted.

93. The CHAIRMAN said that delegations had been given an opportunity to express their objections before the adoption of the draft resolution; accordingly, any changes proposed after its adoption did not require a response. If delegations wished to make any further changes, they would have an opportunity to do so when the Committee's report was considered at a plenary meeting of the General Assembly.

94. Mr. DUGAN (United States of America) said there was no need to amend the draft programme because the draft adopted by the Committee contained no discussion of the question of debt.

95. In response to a question from Mr. DUGAN (United States of America), Mr. BUNCH (Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development) said that there were indeed several topics to be considered annually in the Second Committee that had not been included in the programme of work and documentation list for 1995. He drew attention to footnote d of the draft programme, which pointed out that the programme of work and documentation list for 1995 would be updated in 1994 in order to take into account the relevant decisions of the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session. If the Committee so wished, he could include a list in footnote d of all topics for annual consideration in the agenda of the Committee.

96. Mr. DUGAN (United States of America), speaking on a point of order, said that the record would bear out that the Committee had not inserted any text describing the topic to be discussed under agenda item 2 in the draft programme of work for 1995. In addition, the Committee had received no indication that there would be a specific title for sub-item (c) under that item.

COMPLETION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

97. After an exchange of courtesies, in which Mr. OULD CHEIKH EL GHAOUTHE (Mauritania), Ms. GUERREIRO (Portugal), Mr. JARAMILLO (Colombia), and Mr. CALOVSKI (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) spoke on behalf of their respective groups of States, the CHAIRMAN declared that the Second Committee had completed its work for the forty-eighth session.

The meeting rose at 8.45 p.m.